

REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR

January 27, 2005

RUNOFF MANAGEMENT GRANT SEMINARS

Two types of state grants to help local governments control polluted runoff are now available, and pre-registration for free half-day workshops ends on **January 28**. The due date for applications for 2006 funding is **April 15, 2005**.

- Targeted Runoff Management Grants are intended to support small-scale, short-term (24 month) voluntary projects to reduce runoff pollution in urban and rural areas. Municipalities that are required to obtain a stormwater permit under Wis. Adm. Code NR 216 are not eligible.
- Urban Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Management Grants promote runoff management in urban areas and areas that are expected to be urban within 20 years. Municipalities that are required to obtain stormwater permits are eligible to apply for these planning and construction grants.

The free half-day workshops will provide an overview of these grants and tips for grant writing. The workshops will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:15 in:

- Oshkosh, Monday, **February 7**, DNR/UW-Extension/J. P. Coughlin Center, First Floor Conference Rooms A & B, 625 East CTH Y/Sunnyview Road
- Milwaukee, Thursday, **February 10**, DNR-Havenswood Nature Center, 6141 North Hopkins St., check at the front desk for the room assignment
- Madison, Tuesday, **February 22**, 1st Floor Event Room, Department of Revenue, 2135 Rimrock Road
- Eau Claire, Thursday, **February 24**, DNR-West Central Headquarters, Conference Rooms 158 and 185, 1300 West Clairemont Avenue

Pre-register for the workshops by contacting Kathy Thompson, DNR at 608 267-7568 or at Kathleen.Thompson@dnr.state.wi.us. For more information, please see <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/nps/financial.htm> or call Kathleen Thompson.

NOMINATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Municipalities and businesses that demonstrate commitment to protecting the environment could be rewarded with the Department of Natural Resource's most prestigious award, the John E. Brogan Environmental Achievement Award. DNR is accepting nominations for the award until **February 25**, 2005. Nominees must be regulated by DNR and should show a history of exceptional work and success in protecting the environment. To nominate a Brogan Award candidate, please see <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cea/awards/brogan/index.htm>

WEB SITE PROVIDES LATEST BROWNFIELDS RESEARCH

Readers interested in the latest research on clean up and restoration of contaminated urban sites can access comprehensive information through a new web site. DNR and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Brownfields Research Consortium have teamed up to create a web site for brownfields research. The brownfields research bibliography is at www.uwm.edu/MilwaukeeIdea/CEO/brownfields/bibliography/index.html

Research is divided into categories, with web links are provided for many of the research citations. The UW-Milwaukee Brownfields Research Consortium is a partnership among UWM faculty, government agencies, businesses, and non-profit organizations involved in the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields. More information about the consortium is available at: <http://www.uwm.edu/MilwaukeeIdea/CEO/brownfields/index.html>

AUDIT OF INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS UNDERWAY

One of the RR Program's operating grants from EPA requires an audit of contaminated sites that have been cleaned up and closed with institutional controls. Institutional controls (ICs) are legal and administrative tools to reduce exposure to contamination by limiting land or groundwater use, that require or prohibit certain actions or that give notice of residual contamination to prospective purchasers and others. ICs are required under certain conditions established by rule, and also as a discretionary tool when conditions warrant.

More information about ICs can be found in *Guidance on Case Close Out and the Requirements for Institutional Controls and VPLE Environmental Insurance* at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR606.pdf>

During an IC audit, RR staff complete a file review, a site owner interview and make a site visit to determine whether the site is still in compliance with the conditions of its closure. We completed 24 audits during 2004, and follow-up action was needed at five sites. Regional staff are now taking actions to ensure that these sites return to compliance. Post-closure compliance problems included:

- removal of a protective cap over contaminated soil,
- a protective cap found in disrepair,
- a required deed restriction that had not been recorded, and
- failure to perform annual cap inspections.

In addition to these audit findings, one new environmental discharge from a drum storage area was discovered at another closed site during an audit visit. We will continue the audit process in 2005 and expect to audit 50 additional closed sites.

JANUARY IS TOXIC MOLD PREVENTION MONTH

Local government officials and environmental consultants can find information regarding toxic mold and indoor air quality from the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services at: <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/eh/mold/> and from EPA at: <http://www.epa.gov/mold/>